the raster of a second resolution, [whereby] comprising the steps of:

(a) scaling the digital source data [are scaled] by at least one scaling factor [(sx, sy),];

(b) allocating a target image matrix to each of the digital source datum [(1, 7, 7', 23, 33, 42) has a target image matrix (26, 27, 28, 29, 53, 54, 55, 56) allocated to it] on a [the] basis of a surround window [(52a, 52b, 52c, 52d)] surrounding the source pixel and determining the digital target data [are determined] from neighboring target image matrices [(26, 27, 28, 29, 53, 54, 55, 56)] such that each target pixel is directly formed from a source pixel taking the surroundings thereof into consideration,

(c) using each digital source datum [is employed] for smoothing the target data to be determined from all neighboring source data,

and

(d) implementing [the] scaling and [the] smoothing [are implemented] such in a common processing step that

(d1) the target data are smoothed in the raster [(23', 23'')] of the source data [(1, 7, 7', 23, 33, 42)].

2.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 1, further comprising the step of: [whereby] superimposing neighboring target image matrices [(26, 27, 28, 29, 53, 54, 55, 56)] [are superimposed] on one another for determining the target data or are joined without overlap.

3.(Amended) A method [Method] for converting digital source data in a [the] raster of a first resolution into digital target data in a [the] raster of a second resolution, [whereby] comprising the steps of:

(a) scaling and smoothing the digital source data [are scaled] by a scaling factor [(sx, sy) and are smoothed,] ;

(b1) selecting a scaling rule [is prescribed] from a plurality of selectable scaling rules,

(b2) selecting a smoothing rule [is prescribed] from a plurality of smoothing rules,

(c) forming a single scaling and smoothing rule [is formed] from the selected scaling rule and the selected smoothing rule, both a smoothing of the digital target data in the raster [(23', 23'')] of the digital source data [(1, 7, 7', 23, 33, 42)] as well as a scaling ensuing in respectively one processing step with said single scaling and smoothing rule during [the] formation of the target data,

(c1) allocating a target image matrix to each source datum [(1, 7, 7', 23, 33, 42) has a target image matrix (26, 27, 28, 29, 53, 54, 55, 56) allocated to it] on a [the] basis of a surround window [(52a, 52b, 52c, 52d)] surrounding the digital source pixel and determining the digital target data [are determined] from neighboring target image matrices [(26, 27, 28, 29, 53, 54, 55, 56)] such that each target pixel is directly formed from a source pixel taking the surroundings thereof into consideration,

(d) using each source datum [is employed] for smoothing the target data to be determined from all neighboring source data.

4.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 3, further comprising the step of: [whereby]
selecting the scaling rule [is prescribed] from a plurality of scaling rules.

5.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 3 [or claim 4], further comprising the step of: [whereby]

selecting the smoothing rule ~~[is prescribed]~~ from a plurality of smoothing rules.

6.(Amended) A method ~~[Method]~~ according to claim ~~[one of the claims]~~ 4 ~~[or 5]~~, wherein ~~[whereby]~~ the selecting ~~[prescription]~~ of the scaling rule ~~[and/or of the smoothing rule]~~ ensues on a ~~[the]~~ basis of a print job.

7.(Amended) A method ~~[Method]~~ according to claim 6, further comprising the step of: ~~[whereby]~~
using different smoothing rules ~~[are employed]~~ region-by-region within the print job.

8.(Amended) A method ~~[Method]~~ according to claim ~~[one of the claims]~~ 1 ~~[through 7]~~, wherein ~~[whereby]~~ the scaling factor ~~[(sx, sy)]~~ has a fractional value.

9.(Amended) A method ~~[Method]~~ according to claim ~~[one of the claims]~~ 1 ~~[through 8]~~, wherein ~~[whereby]~~ the scaling and the smoothing ensue in a common work step.

10.(Amended) A method ~~[Method]~~ according to claim 1 ~~[one of the preceding claims]~~, wherein ~~[whereby]~~ the scaling and smoothing steps include generating ~~[ensue in that]~~ a respective index ~~[(49)]~~ allocated to the target image matrix ~~[(26, 27, 28, 29, 53, 54, 55, 56) is generated]~~ from the source data ~~[(1, 7, 7', 23, 42)]~~ individually pixel-by-pixel, the target data ~~[(8, 10, 24, 30, 47)]~~ being ~~determined~~ with said index.

~~11.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 10, further~~ comprising the step of: [characterized in that]
using the index [(49) is employed] for addressing a look-up table [(51)] that contains the target data.

12.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 10, further comprising the step of: [whereby]
using the index as [(49) is employed in the form of] an index signal for driving an electronic circuit [(51)] that forms the target data [(8, 10, 24, 30, 47)] from the index signals.

13.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim [one of the claims] 10 [through 12], further comprising the steps of: [whereby]
storing the source data [(33) are stored] byte-by-byte in a shift register [(37)],
shifting [whereby] an interrelated group of data [(36, 36') are respectively shifted] in the shift register [(37)] with each processing clock, as a result whereof the index [(49)] is formed from bits of the shift register [(37)] lying next to one another after the shifting of all data of the group.

14.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], wherein [whereby] the shift register [(37)] is filled according to the following rules with every processing clock:

(a) R0 through R(A-1) remain unaffected and

(b) $R(i+A) = q(i/Qy, Qy - 1 - (i\%Qy))$ and

$R(i+A) = q(i/Qy, i\%Qy)$,

whereby the following applies:
Ri: value of the ~~ith~~ register bit

~~Qx: window width in x-direction~~

Qy: window width in x-direction

q(k,l): value of the source pixel having the position (k, l)

/: integer division

%: modulo division and

A = Qy * (Qx - 1).

15.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], wherein [whereby] pixel data belonging to images are processed as the digital source data [(1, 7, 7', 23, 33, 42)].

16.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], further comprising the steps of: [whereby]

processing excerpts of the image having l x m source pixels [are respectively processed] in common as a window; [in that]

forming target image matrices each respectively having n x p target pixels [are formed] from each source pixel window; and [in that]

depositing the target pixels of neighboring target pixel matrices [are deposited] in a memory next to one another or overlapped.

17.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 16, wherein [whereby] neighboring target image matrices are overlapped with an OR-operation.

18.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 17, wherein [whereby] ~~the source pixel~~ windows each respectively comprise 3 x 3 pixels for scaling factors Sfx = Sfy = 2.5; [in that] ~~and further comprising the steps of:~~

~~forming~~ exactly one target image matrix having 3 x 3 target pixels [~~is formed~~] from each source pixel window; and [in that]

forming exactly 5 x 5 target pixels [are formed] ~~from~~ respectively four target image matrices by an OR-operation.

19.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], further comprising the step of: [whereby] allocating a grayscale value [is allocated] to each source pixel.

20. (Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 19, wherein at least one of [whereby] a scaling and [/or] smoothing ensues in the grayscale value raster.

21.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], further comprising the step of: [whereby] allocating a color value [is allocated] to each source pixel.

22.(Amended) A method [Method] according to claim 19, wherein at least one of [whereby] a scaling and [/or] smoothing ensues in the color value raster.

Add new claim 23 as follows:

~~23. A method according to claim 5, wherein the selecting of the smoothing rule ensues on a basis of a print job.~~